

Chuck Lind

President Candidate



I began my journey with trains as a youngster in Elgin, Illinois. I started like many others with a Lionel trains that just kept growing until I decided to make the switch to HO for its more realistic look. While in Junior High and High School, I was a junior member of the Valley Model Rail Road Club outside of Elgin.

After moving to Texas to attend Sam Houston University in Huntsville, trains went on hold until school was complete and I moved to Houston. While working in Houston, I retrieved my trains from storage and began visiting the local train stores like G & G Hobbies.

When I moved to Lewisville, I joined Division 1, where I became a NMRA Life Member.

Following my work, I moved to Bryan/College Station. While B/CS is in Division 4, I had met many rail road friends thru the Lone Star Region that lived in Houston, so I attended both Division 4 (Austin Area) and Division 8 (Houston) area events. I stayed in HO, mostly logging until 1992, when a visit with fellow modeler, Bob Clarke, convinced me to make the switch to On3 – a move I have never regretted. In the mid 90's I took a position with the University of North Carolina and once again had a chance to meet more model railroaders. I joined the Mid East Region and became the Editor of the Region Newsletter for 4 years until we moved back to Texas. During this time I also started a mail-order model train business and started selling at shows along the east coast.

Then it was back to Texas for work and renewed old friendships in Division 4. I have been active in the Contest room for as long as I can remember, entering my first contest back in 1981 and getting coached by Gil Freitag and Jim Long that I needed to work on my paperwork telling them what I did in constructing my models. It was also Gil that gave me the push to work towards Master modeler through the Achievement Program. I completed work earning Master Modeler #310

in 2002. I have since proceeded to earn all eleven of the certificates. I truly believe that the Achievement Program makes you a better modeler.

Upon retiring from Texas A&M University, we retired in Navasota and moved my membership to Division 8. I have been working on my latest Tall Pine Lumber Company Railroad layout for close to 4 years. The latest railroad has On3 logging, but also incorporated O Scale Sierra Railroad into it.

I have continued to give clinics and attend Conventions. I am presently Co-chairman of the LSR contest along with Loren Neufeld. In 2015, along with Craig Brantley and Eddie Carrol, we organized the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Houston which was sponsored by Division 8 of the Lone Star Region. I am presently the Director of the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club. I am also active in the Petticoat Junction modeler's monthly fellowship meetings. I have had my layout open to the public through the San Jacinto November Tours since 2002.

I have been married to Laurie for close to 25 years and she has attended many of the conventions with me and has helped in judging of the Ladies Arts and Crafts awards and coordinated the Ladies program for one of the Dallas Lone Star Region Convention.

In Summary, I have been an active member of the NMRA since about 1980 and a Life member for over 25 years. I have been a member of both the Lone Star Region and the Mid East Region.